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Donald Trump supporters carrying a Confederate flag clash with U.S. Capitol police while trying to enter the Capitol building in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday. The Capitol was placed under lockdown and lawmakers were evacuated from the floor of Congress as hundreds swarmed past barricades surrounding the building.

By NICHOLAS FANDOS AND EMILY COCHRANE
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — Locking arms in a rare show of unity, Congress moved late Wednesday toward confirming President-elect Joe Biden's victory after a mob of loyalists, urged on by President Donald Trump, stormed and occupied the Capitol on Wednesday, disrupting the final electoral count in a display of violence that shook the core of American democracy.

There was no parallel in modern U.S. history, with insurgents acting in the president's name vandalizing Speaker Nancy Pelosi's office, smashing windows, looting art and briefly taking control of the Senate chamber, where they took turns posing for photographs with fists up on the dais where Vice President Mike Pence had just presided. Outside the building, they erected a gallows, punctured

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ANDREW HARNIK / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. Capitol Police hold a group of those who stormed the building at gunpoint near the House Chamber inside the Capitol on Wednesday.

Washingtonians sad, speechless over D.C. riot

By NINA SHAPIRO
Seattle Times staff reporter

Many saw it coming. And yet, watching people storm the U.S. Capitol in the other Washington, people across the state were still amazed, saddened and almost speechless.

They clung to optimism, believing in a return to American stability and democracy as we know it, while acknowledging that wouldn't be easy.

"It makes me weep," said Nanci Main, a chef and former restaurateur in Southwest Washington's Pacific County, and then she proceeded to do just that. "It's

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